

Scott County Kicker.

PAUL A. HAFNER, Publisher.
BENTON, MISSOURI

Culprits out is the unkindest cut of all.

The pruned crop this year is bigger than ever before. How does this strike the boarders? asks the Buffalo Times.

A famous western medium has raised her prices. No doubt she has to keep her spirits up.

Prof. Kovalevsky says that the quiet in Russia is only on the surface. A long-distance observer cannot see it even there.

Evidences are beginning to multiply that only an American heiress of the extreme degree can really afford to marry a titled foreigner.

Now that they have women bandits in Pittsburgh, the millionaire steel magnates cannot be blamed for everything that happens in that city.

The apple crop of the United States is figured at 35,000,000 barrels this year. But you will not suspect it if you go to the market to buy a peck.

One of Washington's body servants died at Alexandria, Va., a few days ago. As the years go by the fact is impressed upon us more and more that the list of Washington's body servants was very large.

The dusky warriors of Somaliland, Central Africa, when engaged in warfare, exist entirely on a species of nut, about twice the size of a walnut. Twenty of them are a day's rations for a warrior, and he eats them boiled.

A floating theater is in course of construction for service on the Rhine. Its seating capacity of 2,500 is to be provided, and one of the chief attractions planned for this floating house of amusement is the engagement of an Italian opera company. It is proposed to tow the novel theater from town to town.

Queer things happen in the east, but even a world accustomed to oriental eccentricities was not prepared to believe it was really true that the sultan of Morocco has appointed Raisuli, the bandit, to the governorship of a province with the rank of pasha. That was the story which came from Morocco, but a Tangier correspondent of a Cologne newspaper puts in a denial. Such an incident might suggest a plot for a comic opera.

Commander Peary has the American quality of determination at any rate. It is given out that he will make another attempt to reach the north pole. In his last venture he went within 200 miles or less of the much-sought spot, and it is generally believed that had his dogs held out he could have succeeded. Perhaps next time he will take all the dogs that can be utilized, either as draught animals or for food. The advantage of the arctic canine is that he can be used either way.

Caliph, the hippopotamus in the New York Central park zoo, was recently moved to winter quarters in the lion house, and has been sick ever since he has been living indoors. His keeper diagnosed it as acute indigestion, and Caliph received medical treatment in the shape of a bucket of castor oil. Like 99 per cent of humanity, Caliph has an aversion to castor oil. A wedge of wood to pry open Caliph's mouth and a hand force pump overcame his aversion, and before the crowd that filled the lion house, Head Keeper Snyder pumped in a whole bucketful of castor oil.

The president of Bryn Mawr college, Miss Thomas, says she places the hazy on the same plane with the person who hurts birds, tortures kittens or teases a baby. In welcoming the incoming class of 120 girls she said that the college had been free of those rougher forms of hazing which, unfortunately, had existed in sister colleges, such as putting the girls under the pump, standing on their heads and tearing off their clothes. But that these crude forms of hazing exist among the young lady students of America will surprise many. They should take lessons from West Point of the past or the Harvard of the present.

There is a curious old market near Paris in which everything is sold at second-hand. Working girls can fit themselves out there from head to foot. As a writer says: "Mary can sell her old felt hat and buy a straw one, exchange her old dress for a new one, and if she likes, buy a steak and a salad for her dinner, a paper bag of fried potatoes, sweets, and some flowers for her window. Democracy is king here, and no more attention is paid to the millionaire who is looking for something marvelous, which he may pick up cheap, than to the man with the wooden leg who wants a new felt boot in exchange for a dozen sardine tins, five gloves and a stocking."

An Indiana man has grown a fine crop of hair on a head that had been bald for 20 years by merely going about last summer without a hat. It must have been the psychological moment, etc., with the Indiana man, for a lot of hair didn't grow on other bald heads that were left uncovered.

The production of gold in the mines of South Africa for the month of June was the greatest ever recorded. In the first six months of the current year the production was nearly \$6,000,000 greater than in the corresponding time last year.

Now that the interstate commerce commission has decided that the railroads cannot give land agents passes perhaps the intending purchaser will have time to do his own thinking when he goes out to look the property over.

Although a peace society has been organized in Japan, no nation without a competent navy should make faces at the little yellow men.

It is really very old-fashioned for Opportunity to knock at anybody's door when there is the electric bell right handy.

PRESIDENT TELLS OF CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO

Special Message the Result of Chief Executive's Recent Visit.

MUCH GOOD WORK DONE

Progress Made Under American Administration Is Pointed to with Pride—Last Year the Most Prosperous the Island Has Ever Known—Congress Urged to Confer Full American Citizenship Upon the Porto Ricans—Would Have All Insular Governments Placed in One Bureau.

Washington.—President Roosevelt's message, describing conditions in Porto Rico, and making recommendations for legislation he believes necessary, was read to the congress. It is as follows: To the Senate and House of Representatives: On November 21 I visited the island of Porto Rico, landing at Ponce, crossing by the old Spanish road by Cayey to San Juan, and returning next morning over the new American road from Arecibo to Ponce; the scenery was wonderfully beautiful, especially among the mountains of the interior, which constitute a veritable tropic Switzerland. I could not embark at San Juan because the harbor has not been dredged out and can not receive an American battleship. I do not think this fact creditable to us as a nation, and I earnestly hope that immediate provision will be made for dredging San Juan harbor.

I doubt whether our people as a whole realize the beauty and fertility of Porto Rico, and the progress that has been made under its admirable government. We have just cause for pride in the character of our representatives who have administered the tropic islands which came under our flag as a result of the war with Spain; and of no one of them is this more true than of Porto Rico. It would be impossible to wish a more faithful, more efficient and a more distinguished public service than that now being rendered in the island of Porto Rico by those in control of the insular government.

I stopped at a dozen towns all told, and one of the notable features in every town was the gathering of the school children. The work that has been done in Porto Rico for education has been noteworthy. The main emphasis, as is eminently wise and proper, has been upon primary education; but in addition to this there is a normal school, and agricultural school, three industrial and three high schools. Every effort is being made to secure not only the benefits of elementary education to all the Porto Ricans of the next generation, but also as far as means will permit to train them so that the industrial, agricultural and commercial opportunities of the island can be utilized to the best possible advantage. It was evident at a glance that the teachers, both Americans and native Porto Ricans, were devoted to their work, took the greatest pride in it, and were endeavoring to train their pupils, not only in mind, but in what counts for far more than mind in citizenship, that is, in character.

I was very much struck by the excellent character both of the insular police and of the Porto Rican regiment. They are both of them bodies that reflect credit upon the American administration of the island. The insular police are under the local Porto Rican government. The Porto Rican regiment of troops must be appropriated for by the congress. I earnestly hope that this body will be kept permanent. There should certainly be troops in the island, and it is wise that these troops should be themselves native Porto Ricans. It would be from every standpoint a mistake not to perpetuate this regiment.

In traversing the island even the most cursory survey leaves the beholder struck with the evident rapid growth in the culture both of the sugar cane and tobacco. The fruit industry is also growing. Last year was the most prosperous year that the island has ever known before or since the American occupation. The total of exports and imports of the island was \$45,000,000, as against \$18,000,000 in 1901. This is the largest in the island's history. Prior to the American occupation the greatest trade for any one year was that of 1896, when it reached nearly \$22,000,000. Last year, therefore, there was double the trade that there was in the most prosperous year under the Spanish regime. There were 210,373 tons of sugar exported last year, of the value of \$14,186,319; \$5,555,183 of tobacco, and 28,293,322 pounds of coffee of the value of \$3,481,102. Unfortunately, what used to be Porto Rico's prime crop—coffee—has not shared this prosperity. It has never recovered from the disaster of the hurricane, and, moreover, the benefit of throwing open our market to it has not compensated for the loss inflicted by the closing of the markets to it abroad. I call your attention to the accompanying memorial on this subject of the board of trade of San Juan, and I earnestly hope that some measure will be taken for the benefit of the excellent and high grade Porto Rican coffee.

There is a matter to which I wish to call your special attention, and that is the desirability of conferring full American citizenship upon the people of Porto Rico. I most earnestly hope that this will be done. I can not see how any harm can possibly result from it, and it seems to me a matter of right and justice to the people of Porto Rico. They are loyal, they are glad to be under our flag, they are making rapid progress along the path of orderly liberty. Surely we should show our appreciation of them, our pride in what they have done, and our pleasure in extending recognition for what has thus been done, by granting them full American citizenship.

Under the wise administration of the present governor and council, marked progress has been made in the difficult matter of granting to the people of the island the largest measure of self-government that can with safety be given at the present time. It would have been a very serious mistake to have gone any faster than we have already gone in this direction. The Porto Ricans have complete and absolute autonomy in all their municipal governments, the only power over them possessed by the insular government being that of removing corrupt or incompetent municipal officials. This power has never been exercised save on the clearest proof of corruption or of incompetence—such as to jeopardize the interests of the people of the island; and under such circumstances it has been fearlessly used to the immense benefit of the people. It is not a power with which it would be safe, for the sake of the island itself, to dispense at present. The lower house is absolutely elective, while the upper house is working well; no injustice of any kind results from it, and great benefit to the island, and it should certainly not be changed at this time. The machinery of the elections is administered entirely by the Porto Rican people themselves, the governor and council keeping only such supervision as is necessary in order to insure an orderly election. Any protest as to electoral frauds is settled in the courts. Here again it would not be safe to make any change in the present system. The elections this year were absolutely orderly, unaccompanied by any disturbance; and no protest has been made against the management of the elections, although three contests are threatened where the majorities were very small and error was claimed; the contests, of course, to be settled in the courts. In short, the governor and council are co-operating with all of the most enlightened and most patriotic of the people of Porto Rico in educating the citizens of the island in the principles of orderly liberty. They are providing a government based upon each citizen's self-respect, and the mutual respect of all citizens; that is, based upon a rigid observance of the principles of justice and honesty. It has not been easy to instill into the minds of people unaccustomed to the exercise of freedom the two basic principles of our American system; the principle that the majority must rule, and the principle that the minority has rights which must not be disregarded or trampled upon. Yet real progress has been made in having these principles accepted as elementary, as the foundations of successful self-government.

I transmit herewith the report of the governor of Porto Rico, sent to the president through the secretary of state. All the insular governments should be placed in one bureau, either in the department of war or the department of state. It is a mistake not so to arrange our handling of these islands at Washington as to be able to take advantage of the experience gained in one, when dealing with the problems that from time to time arise in another.

In conclusion let me express my admiration for the work done by the congress when it enacted the law under which the island is now being administered. After seeing the island personally, and after five years' experience in connection with its administration, it is but fair to those who well-nigh impossible to have devised any other which in the actual working would have accomplished better results. THEODORE ROOSEVELT. The White House, Dec. 11, 1906.

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Spanish Custom in Decay. Formerly the dowry of every peasant girl in Spain included a set of linen sheets. On account of the increased cost of linen, this branch of trade has dwindled down to an insignificant figure.

Behind on Rent. "They say poor Shifter is ten years ahead of his time."

"Well, it's not true. I'm his landlord, and I know he's just six months behind."

Italy's King a Coin Collector. The king of Italy's hobby is the collection of coins. In his collection are more than 50,000 specimens. Strange enough, he is not musical, much to the regret of his musical subjects, of whom there are so many in that land of sunshine and song.

Wooden Spoons in Britain. The making of wooden spoons is a handicraft in Britain, and one of considerable importance, for wooden spoons are employed almost universally there for table use.

Executioner Saved Watch. Joseph Lang, the public executioner of Vienna, wears a heavy gold watch chain and a massive watch, which is held securely in his pocket by a thief-proof hook. Both the chain and the hook withstood the attack of a pickpocket who endeavored to relieve the hangman of his treasure in a crowded street of the Austrian capital recently. The thief was captured, and the watch, on which the gruesome record of its owner's official activity is engraved, was saved.

Important Discovery in Silk. An article in the Strasburg Post mentions a discovery said to have been made by a chemist and engineer of St. Etienne, by which the color may be taken out of silk, and it may be recolorized in any desired tint, without in any way injuring its texture. The article goes on to state that in case the inventor can do what he promises it will almost revolutionize the silk industry, and entirely do away with the danger of injuring silks through coloring by means of too strong chemicals.

Negro Hoot in Penitentiary. Pittsburgh's Clifford Hoot, the negro coachman convicted for perjury in connection with a deposition made by him before the Hartie divorce trial, has been taken to the penitentiary to serve six years.

Oklahoma Bank Loss \$4,000. Asher, Okla.—Cracking the safe with two charges of nitroglycerine, a band of five robbers, at 2 a. m., robbed the State bank of this place and made away with \$4,000. Officers are on the robbers' trail.

BIG FIGHTER

PLANS SENT TO CONGRESS FOR THE GREATEST BATTLESHIP IN THE WORLD.

WILL COST \$6,000,000

As Wide as Two City Lots, as Long as Two Blocks, and Will Sail Twenty-One Knots an Hour.

Washington—Congress has received from the secretary of the navy the plans which the department has had drawn up for the big battleship provided for the last session. Four plans were submitted by the bureau of construction and six by private firms and individuals. The plan recommended provides for a ship in many respects superior to any other built or building. It was prepared by the construction bureau.

Greater Than Any Other Battleship. According to the specifications, the broadside fire will be greater than that of any other battleship, the elevation of the guns will be greater, with consequent increase of range, the defensive qualities improved over present standards, and the total weight of the hull and armor will exceed by over 3,000 tons any other similar vessel. The ship is to be 510 feet long, 85 feet 2 1/2-inch beam, 27-foot draft, 20,000 tons displacement, 2,300 tons coal capacity and 21-knot speed.

Offensive and Defensive. The offensive armor will consist of ten 12-inch guns, fourteen 5-inch rapid-fire guns and some machine guns to repel torpedo boat attacks. The cost is limited to \$6,000,000.

The protection of the ship consists of a belt of waterline armor eight feet in width and 11 inches maximum thickness throughout, protecting the boilers, machinery and the magazines, and tending besides to maintain the stability of the ship. Above the waterline the sides of the ship are protected by armor 10 inches wide, only slightly less than the armor in the main belt. Above this again, amidships, there will be 5 inches of armor shielding the smoke pipes, most of the secondary battery and the hull structure. There is also a diagonal and athwart bulkheads and a protective deck.

WILL SPELL LIKE CONGRESS. President Will Withdraw His "Simplified" Order to Public Printer.

Washington—President Roosevelt will withdraw his simplified spelling order to the public printer, and hereafter all documents from the executive departments will again be printed in the old-fashioned style.

Representative Landis, of the joint committee on spelling, had a conference with the president, when the president said he did not wish to have the spelling overshadow other matters of greater importance, and expressed a willingness to revoke his order for the new spelling in case the house of representatives should go on record as opposed to the system. Accordingly, Mr. Landis introduced the following resolution in the house:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the house of representatives that hereafter in presenting reports, documents or other publications authorized by law, or ordered by congress, or either branch thereof, or emanating from the executive departments, their bureaus or branches, and independent officers of the government, the government printing office should observe and adhere to the standard of orthography prescribed in generally accepted dictionaries of the English language."

The measure was passed without a dissenting vote.

In the Congo Country. Washington—Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, British ambassador, called at the state department, and discussed with Secretary Root reported atrocities in the Congo country, and particularly the Lodge resolution pledging the support of the senate in any steps the president may take toward ameliorating conditions in the Free State. Ambassador Durand said that the agitation in England was similar to that in this country, and it was not improbable that England had about reached the point for action.

Fighting the Colorado River. Imperial, Cal.—Representatives of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. were in conference with a large assemblage of the people of the Imperial valley, and submitted a proposition to the effect that the interests of the valley subscribe a \$1,000,000 contingent upon the successful controlling of the Colorado river, the railroad company agreeing to carry on the work at an estimate of \$2,500,000. The proposition was received enthusiastically by the people, and with little doubt will be consummated.

German Reichstag Dissolved. Berlin.—The existence of the reichstag was terminated suddenly amid scenes of excitement, upon the defeat of the government's bill for a supplementary appropriation to support the troops in German Southwest Africa. This action, although foreshadowed several days ago, took the house by surprise, as dissolution means a direct attack upon the clerical party, which has grown into such intimate relations with the government that it frequently has been characterized as the governing party.

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SWARMS OF MIKADO'S MEN

TWO REGIMENTS OF JAPANESE REPORTED IN HONOLULU.

Secretary Taft and Assistant Secretary of State Bacon Deny Government Has Been Informed.

Honolulu.—It is stated here, and has been reported to the United States government at Washington, that two regiments of Japanese, completely outfitted, are in Honolulu, disguised as laborers. Whether they are armed is not known.

Denied at Washington. Washington.—The Honolulu report that it was stated there that Japanese troops fully outfitted, were in that city disguised as laborers, and that the fact had been reported to this government, met with an emphatic denial here.

Acting Secretary of State Bacon said he had heard nothing of such a report. Secretary Taft stated that no such report had ever been made to this government.

The Japanese legation promptly denied the story.

Japs Pouring in Via Mexico. El Paso, Tex.—The number of Japanese applying for admission to the United States through this port has noticeably increased within the last ten days. They are, according to the immigration officers, pouring into the United States from Mexico through the ports of Eagle Pass and Laredo, claiming to have come to Mexico as laborers, but become dissatisfied with the conditions and their treatment there.

CABINET MEMBERS CONFIRMED. Moody, Bonaparte, Metcalf and Strauss Go Through by Senate.

Washington.—The senate has confirmed the nominations of William H. Moody, of Massachusetts, to be an associate justice of the supreme court of the United States; Charles J. Bonaparte, of Maryland, to be attorney general; Victor H. Metcalf, of California, to be secretary of the navy, and Oscar S. Strauss, of New York, to be secretary of commerce.

The opposition to Messrs. Moody and Bonaparte, which had been raised in the senate by a number of democratic senators, was not strongly pressed, and no roll call was asked for. On the viva voce vote for Mr. Bonaparte, however, there were a number of negative votes on the minority side, estimated at about 15. Senators Culberson and Carmack led the discussion against both Mr. Moody and Mr. Bonaparte. There was no opposition to either Mr. Metcalf or Mr. Strauss.

THE ALGERIAS CONFERENCE. It is Ratified by the Senate, with a Rider Attached.

Washington.—The senate in executive session, ratified the general act by the delegates of the powers represented at the conference, which met at Algiers, Spain, in April last, to draft a treaty concerning Moroccan affairs. Opposition by the democrats compelled the adoption of a resolution disclaiming responsibility for the participation of the United States in the programme arranged by the conference as to the future of Morocco.

Over this resolution there was an extended argument, which was started by a suggestion from Chairman Cullom of the foreign relations committee that the disclaimer be divorced from the resolution of ratification. Democratic senators declared this would weaken its effect, and in a measure defeat the purpose of the resolution, but ultimately this action was taken.

DOUBLE STANDARD SPELLING. Costs Money for President and Congress to Spell Differently.

Washington.—The great confusion resulting from the government's double standard of spelling has made it necessary for the joint committee on printing to take immediate action, and Senator Platt and Representative Landis of the committee are at work on a resolution designed to straighten the tangle at once. Reports from the executive departments are printed now in reformed spelling. When congress desires to include portions of them in its proceedings it is necessary to make new plates, and much additional expense is entailed.

Claims a Slice of Chicago. Chicago.—In the federal circuit court, Sidney Smith, of Cambridge, Mass., has filed 14 suits for writs of ejectment on land here worth millions. The city of Chicago and 4,000 others are named in the suits. The land is almost the entire territory south of Thirty-second street to Thirty-ninth street, between Grand boulevard and Lake Michigan. According to Smith, the original grant of the land never appeared on record, the men obtaining the grant having died before the instrument was registered.

Country Banks Have the Money. New York.—There are reports that interior banks are inclined to refuse the proffered aid of the treasury. This is taken to indicate that the stringency is practically confined to New York. There seems to be plenty of currency in the country banks. One peculiar feature is attracting attention. The country banks that have accounts in New York banks are placing heavy loans here. These loans involve a displacement of loans of New York banks, as the outside bank draws on its deposits here.

Rejected All Amendments. London.—The hostility between the house of lords and the house of commons has now reached an open stage. The lower house has rejected all of the amendments of the house of lords to the educational bill by a vote of 416 to 107. The Irish members voting with the government. On a motion by Augustine Birrell, president of the board of education, a committee was appointed to draw up the reasons for the rejection of the amendments. The speech made in the house was one of intense excitement.

THE HARVESTER TRUST

FEBRUARY 1 MAY SEE FINANCIAL REORGANIZATION.

At Least \$100,000,000 of the \$120,000,000 Stock Favors a Change.

Chicago.—The Post says: Unless plans, which are sanctioned by J. Pierpont Morgan, and agreed to by holders of at least \$100,000,000 out of \$120,000,000 of the capital stock of the International Harvester Co., fall through, Feb. 1, 1907, should see the complete financial reorganization of the great farm implement trust.

Tentative contracts, which have been signed for the conversion of \$120,000,000 of capital stock of one class into a like amount of new stock, divided into \$60,000,000 7 per cent cumulative preferred stock and \$60,000,000 common stock; the retirement of several interests from active business management, and a general change in the staff of officials. The expectation is that the new securities will be listed on the New York Stock exchange, which, if the plans are carried through, will give the stockholders a broad market for their securities, and enable them to retire if they desire to do so.

PEOPLE ARE FREEZING. Railways Urged to Make Effort to Relieve Suffering in North.

Washington.—In view of the complaints of car shortage resulting, it is said, in the failure to transport the necessities of life and coal for household use, the interstate commerce commission has sent the following telegram to the presidents of a number of western and northwestern railroads:

"From many parts of the country, and particularly from your section, the interstate commerce commission is receiving numerous and important complaints of car shortage and failure to transport the necessities of life. In various places in the northwest it is represented that people are actually freezing because sufficient coal for household use cannot be procured owing to extraordinary delays in moving that article. The commission therefore urges you to make every possible effort to meet at once the needs and relieve the suffering of those dependent upon the facilities of your road."

"Martin A. Knapp, Chairman." The telegram was sent to the presidents of the following named roads: Great Northern, Northern Pacific, Minneapolis, St. Paul & Salt Lake, Erie, Chicago & Northwestern, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Chicago, Burlington & Quincy.

MASTER OF SEVENTY TONGUES. Death of Jeremiah Curtin, Greatest Linguist in the World.

Bristol, Vt.—Jeremiah Curtin, a distinguished linguist and philologist, and well known also as a translator of Russian and Polish novels, died here of Bright's disease. Mr. Curtin was 68 years old. He was proficient in 70 languages, excelling as a linguist. It is said, any other man. After his graduation from Harvard in 1862, he became secretary of the United States legation in Russia, and later acting consul there. For many years he was actively engaged in special work for the Smithsonian Institution, visiting many countries, and studying the language and folklore of the people. As an author he was best known as the translator from the Polish of the works of Henryk Sienkiewicz.

FIVE YEARS FOR MRS. BIRDSONG. Slayer of Dr. Thomas Butler Out on \$10,000 Bail.

Hazlehurst, Miss.—Mrs. Angie Birdsong was denied a new trial by Judge Miller. She was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, and notice of appeal was given to the Mississippi supreme court.

When notice of appeal was made, Mrs. Birdsong was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000, which was furnished. Mrs. Birdsong shot and killed Dr. Thomas Butler at Monticello, Miss., Nov. 25, 1905, and at the trial, concluded several days ago, was convicted of manslaughter. Since that time she has been seriously ill. Because of her young child and her illness, Mrs. Birdsong was never sent to jail.

Orders a Court-Martial Trial. Washington.—On the recommendation of the general staff, the secretary of war has ordered the trial by court-martial of Maj. Charles W. Penrose and Capt. Edgar A. Macklin, of Co. C, First battalion, Twenty-fifth infantry, under the sixty-second article of war, for "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline" in failing in their duty in preventing and suppressing the riot at Brownsville, Tex., last August. The specifications will charge that the two officers named failed to exercise due diligence.

Wireless Telegraphy Solved. Berlin.—The German Society of Wireless Telephony has succeeded in holding wireless communication between Berlin and Nauen, 24 miles away. Prof. Slaby, in an interview, described the experiment as eminently successful. Prof. Slaby says the problem of wireless telephony is solved, but that the limit of distance is not yet known. He sees no reason to set any limit, and believes that the time is coming when a man will be able to speak wirelessly with a friend in any part of the world.

Survivor of Samoan Hurricane Dead. Washington.—Commander R. M. G. Brown, U. S. N., retired, a survivor of the Samoan hurricane, which destroyed the American fleet in 1889, died in this city. He was a brother-in-law of Senator Ekins of West Virginia.

State Happenings.

About Missouri Schools.

Jefferson City.—The forthcoming annual report of State Superintendent of Public Schools Carrington will contain a statement that St. Louis has an assessed valuation of \$240,000 per teacher employed, and pays an average salary of \$720, while Kansas City, with an assessed valuation of \$100,000 per teacher employed, pays an average salary of \$210.

The compulsory attendance law brought 26,263 children into school last year it was adopted. The highest annual salary paid a rural teacher in Missouri is \$600 a year, for a term of eight months, or \$75 per month; the lowest is \$60, for a term of four months, or \$15 per month. The average is below \$300.

The average levy for school purposes in the rural school districts is about 47 cents on the \$100, assessed valuation, while in the cities and towns it is about 82 cents. There is a greater demand for trained teachers than was ever before known. The normal schools are well attended. The enrollment in these five schools since September is, in round numbers, as follows: Kirksville, 600; Warrensburg, 500; Cape Girardeau, 400; Springfield, 300; Maryville, 200.

Dora Drogmund Paroled. Kansas City.—Dora Drogmund, convicted of fourth degree manslaughter, and sentenced to a year in jail for shooting and killing her husband, was paroled by Judge Wofford in the criminal court. She was told by the judge to take her baby, 3 months old, and go to the home of her mother or other place in Kansas City she chose, where she might care for him properly. She paroled her until March 1, at which time she will return to the jail. An attorney had not asked for a full parole. He had asked the judge to lower her to go until she had regained her health.

Lived In Three Centuries. Springfield.—Levi Boster died at home near Houston, Texas, could be aged 116 years. He was born in 1790 and had lived in Missouri since 1820. He always wore homespun clothing, cowhide boots and hickory shirt. His white hair fell over his shoulders, and he had worn a long gray beard for over half a century. Boster was for Andrew Jackson for president, and had voted for every other democratic candidate for president since. He is survived by two sons, William Boster, who is 76 years old, and "Doc" Boster, 67 years old.

All Turkey Records Broken. Pilot Grove.—More than 2,000 turkeys were sold here in one day, for which the farmers received nearly \$3,500 from local merchants. All records for one day's business in turkey were broken. The principal buyers were blocked with wagons. A special car loaded with turkeys and 700 additional were shipped out.

Shook Hand of Daughter's Slayer. Springfield.—Garland Moore, who killed Clara West at Bois D'Arc, was warmly greeted in court by the mother of the dead girl. Among the who crowded forward to shake hands with the mother of the murdered girl.

For the Death of Her Father. Carthage.—In the circuit court, Patsy Middleton, minor, was awarded \$5,000 damages against the St. Louis & Iron Mountain for the death of her father.

Couldn't Give Her Up. Clayton.—Capt. Wm. Gates, of Manchester, Mo., aged 65, married by housekeeper, Flora Broderick, aged 50, a widow. She had kept house for him eight years.